



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)
Charles E. Friesner)
)
Serial No: 09/723,312) Art Unit: 3637
)
Filed: November 27, 2000) Examiner: Mr. Dennis Dorsey
)
For: STRUCTURAL MEMBER) Attorney Docket: 277.0017

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

RECEIVED

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

JUL 18 2003

GROUP 3600

Sir:

Continued examination of the above-captioned application, which was finally rejected on March 11, 2003, is respectfully requested. A request for a one month extension of the period for response to the final rejection is being filed concurrently. A check in the amount of \$375.00 is enclosed to pay the fee for continued examination. Please amend the application by revising the first paragraph on page 1 thereof, by revising the paragraph which bridges pages 24 and 25, by revising the paragraph which commences in line 8 of page 44, by amending claims 9, 15, 16 and 17, and by adding new claims 20-25, all as set forth below.

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please amend the paragraph on page 1 of the application which follows the heading "REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" to read as follows:

This is a continuation in part of application No. 09/410,793, filed October 1, 1999, as a continuation in part of application [Serial] No. 08/795,123, filed February 7, 1997 as a [continuation in part] non-provisional of provisional application [Serial] No. 60/011,352, filed February 8, 1996. Application No. 09/410,793 is now US patent No. 6,284,841; the other applications are all abandoned.

Please amend the paragraph which bridges pages 24 and 25 of the application to read as follows:

An aluminum member having the shape of the floor 19, but made from thin sheet material, was used to produce a structural member similar to a part of the member 10. The specific member used was so thin that, when it was suspended between two supports which extended transversely of its channels, and were separated from one another by twelve inches, a load applied in the center of the member caused it to collapse before available instrumentation indicated the magnitude of the load. An identical aluminum member was then placed in the mold 14 (FIG. 11); the mold was charged with 568 g per 929 cm² of the intermediate/isocyanate composition produced as described above with reference to FIG. 1; a sheet of thin polyethylene was placed over the foamable composition; a sheet of expanded polystyrene was placed in the mold, above the polyethylene sheet; and the lid 17 was closed, and clamped shut. The composition expanded to fill the available space inside the mold 14, and cured to such an extent that it could be removed from the mold after about 10 minutes; it had an apparent density of about 20 0.2 gm per cc. After the foamed composition had cured for about 48 hours, the member, when it was suspended between two supports which were circular in cross section and extended transversely of its channels, and were separated from one another by twelve inches on centers, withstood a load of 4560 pounds before failure. The load was applied by a member that was circular in cross-section, that extended laterally across the structural

member, and that was spaced six inches on centers from each of the supports. A sharp noise from the member was deemed to indicate failure; it was determined that the foam had pulled away from the metal, and that the metal had collapsed.

Please amend the paragraph which commences in line 8 on page 44 of the application to read as follows:

Panels similar to that designated 124 in Fig. 29, except that the parallel major surfaces were composed of 19 gauge sheet metal have also been produced by supporting appropriately sized panels of the sheet metal against plywood backing, closing the spaces between the edges and the ends of the metal panels with plywood sheets faced with polyethylene, and introducing the composition which formed the cured urethane core into the space between the metal sheets. Such a panel, which is indicated generally at 160 in Fig. 34, has 19 gauge sheet metal skins 161 and 162, and a thermoset urethane core 163 chemically and mechanically bonded to the skins. The panels about one inch in thickness have been found to be highly useful in building construction